No. CXXIV. SEPTEMBER, MDCCCLI. Price 1s.

THE

PHYTOLOGIST:

A BOTANICAL JOURNAL.

TANTUS AMOR FLORUM.

LONDON:
JOHN VAN VOORST, PATERNOSTER ROW.

E. NEWMAN, PRINTER, 9, DEVONSHIRE STREET, BISHOPSGATE.

'*Natural Systems of Plants.*'—Under this title Dr. Drummond has very forcibly stated, in the present number, his objections to the term 'natural,' as applied to the physiological systems now universally employed in botanical science. Now, without any idea of strengthening the Doctor's cause, which he is quite competent to defend, but with a desire of making known my own notions on this subject, I venture to express my entire concurrence in the views which he has expressed with such ability. There must be a natural system, but that system is Divine, and none of our various systems, however ingenious their construction, can be supposed Divine: they are not only apparently but avowedly human; they are the work of man's brain; the result of his powers of constructiveness. But although this general definition obtain with all, still I think a difference exists in the fact that the Jussieuian systems aim at the *natural*, while the Linnean aims at and achieves the *convenient*. To those who require more general terms than Jussieuian and Linnean, I would venture to suggest the terms 'physiological' and 'arithmetical,' as not only being inoffensive to those who deprecate the distinction of 'natural' and 'artificial,' but also as possessing the great merits of being descriptive and truthful. Physiological systems are founded both on the physiological characters and intimate structure of the plant. Arithmetical systems depend on the number of certain parts of a plant. I would therefore venture to suggest that until that distant day when a *really* natural system shall have been discovered, not manufactured, the terms 'physiological' and 'arithmetical' be employed when there is any necessity of contrasting the merits of these conflicting methods. —*Edward Newman.*

Angelica Archangelica.—In five editions (perhaps also in the first) of the 'British Flora' we have the habitat of this plant recorded as "Thames' side near Dorking." Pray inform me in what part of the United Kingdom this may be.—*T. W., Worcester.*

[I have no idea. Will any reader kindly offer an explanation?—*E. N.*]

Sempervivum tectorum.—How comes this plant in all our floras? I never saw a British specimen, recent or dried, and never met with a botanist who had that pleasure.—*Querist, York.*

[It is one of those time-hallowed errors which continue to exist in the face of fact. The Sempervivum is one of those few hardy plants which not only is not native, but will not escape or make any attempt to naturalize itself. It has little better claim to be considered a British plant than the dragon-tree of Oratava. The authors of our two descriptive lists of British plants appear to have exercised but slender judgment in the retention or rejection of species as native.—*E. N.*]

City Conservatory.—I shall be obliged for the names of those gentlemen residing in London or its vicinity who are willing to assist in the preliminary arrangements for establishing a conservatory on the site of Smithfield.—*Edward Newman.*

Botanical Notes and Queries (Continued).

'*On the Growth of Plants in Closely-glazed Cases.*'—I have much pleasure in announcing that Mr. Ward is about to issue a second edition of this little *brochure*.

Mr. Willmott's paper on the Botany of the Great Doward is received, and will appear in October.

Notices of several important works unavoidably stand over. Dr. Balfour's reply to Mr. Griffin is received.—*Edward Newman.*

The following Report will appear in its proper place next month:—

Botanical Society of London.

Friday, August 1, 1851. John Reynolds, Esq., Treasurer, in the chair.

The following donations were announced:—British plants from Miss Griffiths and Dr. Bidwell. 'Proceedings of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club;' presented by the Club. 'Pharmaceutical Journal' and 'Transactions;' presented by the Pharmaceutical Society. 'An Outline of the Flora of the Neighbourhood of Godalming, Surrey, with brief notices of the Geological Features of the District, by J. D. Salmon, Esq.;' presented by the Author. Parts 1 and 2 of the 'Transactions of the Microscopical Society of London;' presented by that Society. 'The Gardener's Magazine of Botany;' presented by the Editors. 'The Flora of Liverpool, by Dr. Dickenson;' presented by the Author.

The continuation of Mr. Daniel Stock's paper 'On the Botany of Bungay, Suffolk,' was read.—*G. E. D.*

LEIGHTON'S SHROPSHIRE RUBI.

THREE SETS of LEIGHTON'S 'SHROPSHIRE BRAMBLES' remain for Sale. Early application is recommended to Mr. Pamplin, Botanical Agent, 45, Frith Street, Soho, London.

Published this Day, Price Twopence,

LETTER TO R. K. GREVILLE, LL.D., being an Answer to Certain Statements contained in a Pamphlet entitled 'Singular Specimens of the Edinburgh Practice of Criticism, by John Joseph Griffin.' By JOHN HUTTON BALFOUR, M.D., Professor of Medicine and Botany in the University of Edinburgh.

Adam & Charles Black, Edinburgh; Longman & Co., London.

CONTENTS.

PAGE.

Anacharis Alsinastrum, *Bab.* [Udora Canadensis], in Warwickshire, with Remarks on its Nativity in this Country. By THOMAS KIRK, Esq. - - - - - 274
Grammitis Ceterach growing on a Tree, and some other Hampshire Localities for Ferns not mentioned by Dr. Bromfield. By R. W. SMITH, Esq. - - - - - 276
Abnormal Form of Lolium perenne, and Occurrence of Anacharis Alsinastrum at Cambridge. By the Rev. W. M. HIND, M.A. 276
Botanical Society of Edinburgh - - - - 277
Botanical Society of London - - - - - 287
Report of the Botanical Proceedings of the British Association for the Advancement of Science - - - - 288
Note in reference to the Paper by the late Mr. W. Griffith, 'On the Structure of the Ascidia and Stomata of Dischidia Rafflesiana.' By GEORGE LUXFORD, F.B.S.E., &c. - - 292
Notice of 'The Gardener's Magazine of Botany,' Nos. 18 and 19, July and August, 1851 - - - - - 297
Notice of the 'Annals and Magazine of Natural History,' No. 44, August, 1851 - - - - - - 302
Notice of 'The Naturalist,' No. 6, August, 1851 - - 302
Notice of 'Hooker's Journal of Botany and Kew Garden Miscellany,' No. 32, August, 1851 - - - - 303
Notice of the 'Botanical Gazette,' No. 32, August, 1851 - 307
Notice of 'Fasciculi of British Mosses. Collected, arranged, and published by F. Y. BROCAS, at Mr. R. S. Hill's, Basingstoke, Hants' - - - - - - 307
Cultivation of Ervum Lens in Scotland - - - 308
Natural Systems of Plants. By JAMES L. DRUMMOND, M.D., &c., &c. - - - - - - - 309
Surrey Locality for Leersia oryzoides. By ALFRED W. BENNETT, Esq. - - - - - - - 312

Price reduced to 7s. 6d.

JOHNSTON'S 'FLORA of BERWICK-ON-TWEED,' complete, the two Volumes in one, extra boards, is now reduced in price to seven shillings and sixpence, or by Post, prepaid, eight shillings and sixpence. But few copies remain.

WILLIAM PAMPLIN, Botanical Bookseller, 45, Frith Street, Soho, London.

A MEMBER of the Ray Society wishes to dispose of his BOOKS, the whole, from the beginning to the present time, including the recently-issued volume, 'LEIGHTON ON LICHENS;' or they may be purchased separately, in series or in single works. Apply to MR. PAMPLIN, 45, Frith Street, Soho, London.

EDWARD NEWMAN, PRINTER, 9, DEVONSHIRE STREET, BISHOPSGATE.